

convince people is to speak with authority. And if that authority is matched by knowledge then the chances for leadership are greatly enhanced.

The development of the concept of amphibious warfare was initiated by Marine Corps Commandants who combined authority with conviction and knowledge. From its origins during the tenures of Commandants John Lejeune, Wendell Neville, and Benjamin Fuller, through the establishment of the Fleet Marine Force under General John H. Russell, all Naval Academy graduates, the development of the Marine Corps as America's expeditionary force was the result of leadership. It was backed by the experience of campaigns in the Caribbean, Central America, the Pacific and China. These leaders spoke with authority in directing new ideas because they had experienced the old ideas and borne the scars.

Likewise, when Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Arleigh Burke (Class of 1923) began the project to build the first fleet ballistic missile submarine, he needed to convince both the civilian leadership and the Navy itself that the program required top priority. The authority of his presentation was fortified with his combat experience—and his reflections about the deterrence implications of that experience.

A leader strengthens others. A good leader does not seek to impose his or her own attitudes or solutions on others. Rather, the leader provides the support and guidance that prompts others to have confidence in their own abilities and decision-making.

When Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz (Class of 1905) arrived to take command of the remnants of the Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, his first effort was to renew the confidence of the staff and the commanding officers that they could go on to victory. Rather than making heads roll, he made them think. Rather than emphasizing the mistakes, he convinced his subordinates that they were the ones to overcome the past. Those who served under him recalled that his very "presence" seemed to give confidence wherever he was. He strengthened others to believe their abilities could achieve the crucial victory that they sought.

A leader remains optimistic and enthusiastic. To lead effectively, see the glass as half-full, not half-empty. Believe, every morning, that things are going to be better than before. Attitudes are infectious. Optimism and enthusiasm overcome the greatest challenges.

Captain John Paul Jones captured this idea with the immortal quote, "I have not yet begun to fight." I have a painting of that famous battle between the Bonhomme Richard and Serapis hanging in my office and it inspires me every day. John Paul Jones's spirit of optimism and enthusiasm has been a part of our Navy since the American Revolution.

A leader never compromises absolutes. Defense of American freedom and obedience to the Constitution of the United States are two absolutes the Naval Service lives by, and for which our Sailors and Marines may face death.

Admiral Hyman Rickover (Class of 1922), the father of the nuclear Navy—by whom I was interviewed for the Navy's nuclear program—vividly demonstrated this commitment to absolutes. He wanted to ensure there was no compromise in the safety of our submarines. And he did this by setting an example. Most Americans don't know that Admiral Rickover went on the first trial dive of every nuclear submarine the Navy built. He knew that it wasn't enough to simply certify on paper that a new submarine was safe. If Sailors were going to trust their lives to an untested submarine, he would go with them.

If something seemed like it was going wrong during the dive, he would calmly go to the compartment where the problem appeared and sit to watch the crew handle it. How could you be afraid when this small, wrinkled old man was not? How could you treat safety as anything but an absolute.

This leads to the final quality on this list of traits: example. The best leaders need fewer words than most, because they lead with their lives. In the sports world, example is not just ability, but both the willingness to lead and the humility to support a team effort that is stronger than one skilled individual. Roger Staubach class of '65 and David Robinson class of '87 are competitors who set the example as both leaders and teammates.

Among today's Naval leaders, Rear Admiral Anthony Watson, class of 1970, has set an example that many young Americans have decided to follow. Raised in a public housing project in Chicago, he was a recognized leader in every position from midshipman to Commanding Officer to Deputy Commandant here, and became the first African-American submariner to make flag rank. He takes over soon as Commander of the Navy Recruiting Command, a position that demands a very public example.

And finally, I want to mention an academy graduate who exemplifies the fact that women in the Navy and Marine Corps no longer face any limits to their dreams. Since the age of ten, LCDR Wendy Lawrence, class of 1981, dreamed of becoming an astronaut. Three years ago she fulfilled that childhood dream. She became the first female naval aviator chosen by NASA for the astronaut program and was a mission specialist on the shuttle Endeavour's last mission. LCDR Lawrence demonstrates that what matters to the Naval service, above all else, is your performance as an officer. Man or woman, you will rise as high as your abilities will take you.

These eight traits of leadership provide a path, a course that has been marked for almost two thousand years.

There is a long line of Naval heroes before you . . . men and women tried by history. Your turn has come. That's what you were trained for. That is why the Naval Academy has existed for 150 years. Not just to educate . . . not just to train you in the arts of war . . . not just to provide competent officers. But to instill you with a commitment and tradition of service and leadership that will remain with you forever.

In character and in deed, you will always be the ones to set the example. This institutional is unique because its mission is to ensure that in your hearts you are unique . . . that foremost and everywhere the defense of American liberty will remain your task . . . whether in the Naval Service or elsewhere. Those people behind you are counting on you. When you shake hands with me as you receive your diploma, let's regard it as a pact—a bond between two graduates of this extraordinary institution—to be as worthy as we can possibly be of those who have gone before us . . . of those who march with us today . . . and of those who will follow us. In a few moments, your diploma and our handshake will seal that bond. And then the real challenge will begin.

God bless you. God bless the United States Navy and United States Marine Corps. And God bless America.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members are recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. EHLERS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. EHLERS addressed the House. HIS remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

#### IN OPPOSITION TO FRANCE'S RESUMPTION OF NUCLEAR TESTING IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, as a Member from the Pacific Islands, I rise again in strong protest of France's decision to resume detonating nuclear bombs in the South Pacific on French Polynesia's Moruroa Atoll.

French President Jacques Chirac claims that the eight atomic bomb explosions planned—about one a month between this September and next May—are completely safe to the environment. I am not persuaded.

The people of the Pacific know from firsthand experience the horrors associated with nuclear bomb explosions and testing. As an American, I am not proud of the legacy of the United States testing program of the 1940's, the 1950's, and the 1960's on Bikini and Rongelap Atolls in the Marshall Islands. Even now, a half-century later, that bitter legacy is still being felt in the Marshall Islands.

In particular, I have long believed that when the United States detonated the "Bravo Shot" on Bikini Atoll—a 15-megaton thermonuclear bomb, a 1,000 times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb—the Marshall Islanders residing on nearby Rongelap and Utirik Atolls were deemed expendable. These Pacific islanders justifiably believe they were used as "guinea pigs" and test subjects for nuclear radiation experiments conducted by our Nation. People there have not forgotten memories of the offspring of Pacific islander women infected by radiation from the nuclear explosions—where babies were born dead and didn't look human and were sometimes called "jelly babies."

Although our country, decades ago, stopped its nuclear testing in the Pacific, our Nation is still mired in the process of facing responsibility and making financial reparations for the devastating impact that our nuclear bomb explosions had on the Pacific people of the Marshall Islands.

France has detonated over 200 nuclear bombs already, with almost all of those nuclear explosions taking place